

Salix exigua Temporarily Flooded Shrubland

COMMON NAME Narrowleaf Willow Temporarily Flooded Shrubland
SYNONYM Sandbar Willow Shrubland
PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS Shrubland (III)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS Deciduous shrubland (III.B)
PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP Cold-deciduous shrubland (III.B.2)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP Natural/Semi-natural (III.B.2.N)
FORMATION Temporarily flooded cold-deciduous shrubland (III.B.2.N.d)
ALLIANCE SALIX EXIGUA TEMPORARILY FLOODED SHRUBLAND ALLIANCE

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 1

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM Terrestrial

RANGE

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This shrubland occurs immediately adjacent to the Little Missouri River on the more stabilized point bars. The stands are typically quite small, often occurring below the minimum mapping unit.

Globally

This community is found along rivers and streams in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, southern Manitoba, Wyoming, Colorado, Oklahoma, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Iowa. It probably extends into North Dakota.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

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Sandbar willow shrublands occur along stabilized point bars where moist, sandy sediments collect. The sites are level and subirrigated from the Little Missouri River.

Globally

This community is found on recently deposited or disturbed alluvial material. The parent material is alluvial sand, although silt, clay, or gravel may be present. Soil development is poor to absent.

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

Theodore Roosevelt National Park

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Tree Canopy	<i>Populus deltoides</i>
Short Shrub	<i>Salix exigua</i>
Herbaceous	<i>Melilotus alba</i> , <i>Xanthium strumarium</i> , <i>Spartina pectinata</i>

Globally

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Shrub	<i>Salix exigua</i>

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

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Salix exigua, *Spartina pectinata*

Globally

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

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Salix exigua is the dominant species, usually forming dense cover (>75%) in the tall shrub layer. Several to many young *Populus deltoides* are also found, usually as tall shrubs. *Melilotus alba* and *M. officinalis*, *Xanthium strumarium*, and *Spartina pectinata* are the most common herbaceous species.

Globally

This community is dominated by shrubs, generally between 2 and 4 meters tall. The most common of these is *Salix exigua*. *Salix irrorata* and saplings of *Populus deltoides* or *Salix amygdaloides* are also frequently found in the shrub layer. This stratum can have

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moderate to high stem density in the community as a whole. The species in the shrub layer do not form a closed canopy, allowing significant light to reach the ground layer. There are often patches where the shrub layer is absent. The herbaceous cover is sparse to moderate. Older stands and places with less competition from the shrubs have greater herbaceous cover. The composition of the herbaceous layer can vary greatly. Species that are often found in this community are *Cenchrus longispinus*, *Polygonatum lapathifolium*, *Scirpus americanus*, *Triglochin maritimum*, and *Xanthium strumarium*.

CONSERVATION RANK G5. This type is widespread and common throughout its range.

DATABASE CODE CEGL001197

SIMILAR ASSOCIATIONS

Salix exigua / Mesic Graminoids Shrubland (These two types may be essentially the same.)

COMMENTS

In Nebraska, Steinauer and Rolfsmeier (1997) report that *Amorpha fruticosa*, *Cornus sericea*, and *Salix lutea* are also present in the shrub layer. In the herbaceous layer they report the following species: *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* and *Aster lanceolatus*.

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